## **News Release**



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## Clemsonville Road Personal Injury Collision - Update

On Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020, **Michael Fritz, age 22**, was taken off of life support and died of his injuries sustained in this incident. The condition of John Wittington Jr., age 19, is continuing to improve.

The Frederick County Sheriff's Office is asking anyone with information, to include videos of the incident, to please contact DFC Rector at 301-600-6490. Tips can also be left anonymously on our Tips line at 301-600-4131.

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## **Clemsonville Road Personal Injury Collision**

On Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020, at approximately 10:15 p.m., members of the Frederick County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to the area of Clemsonville Road and Fountain Rock Road in Union Bridge for a report of a large group of people racing vehicles on the road. While Officers were en-route, a second call, this time near the 10800 block of Clemsonville Road, came in for two injured persons who fell from a moving vehicle.

The incident involved a 1984 Ford F250 4X2 flatbed pickup truck. The Ford truck was traveling southbound on Clemsonville Road with at least three people sitting on the rear flatbed portion of the truck. The truck went off-road while spinning tires and then came back onto the road while continuing to spin the tires when two of the three persons fell off the back of the truck. The two subjects who fell off of the truck were injured and taken to University of Maryland R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center in Baltimore. Collision Reconstructionists from the Frederick County Sheriff's Office Traffic Unit responded to conduct the investigation.

It was learned that this illegal "Pop-Up Street Race Event" was organized and spread through social media. The investigation is ongoing, and although persons on the scene appeared to be intoxicated, there was no indication that the driver was impaired by substances during the incident.

The driver of the truck was identified as **Noah Wetzel**, **age 19**. The individuals who fell off the truck and were transported to shock trauma were identified as **John Wittington**, **Jr.**, **age 19**, and **Michael Fritz**, **age 22**.

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